



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes** **October 28– 9:00am** **DuPage County Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Tim Angell, Tracey Bosman, Consuella Brown, Bill Browne, Lori Clark, Grant Davis, JoAnne Eckmann, Thomas Gary, Robert Gleeson, John Greuling, Robin Kelly, Mike Scholefield, David Young

**Members Absent:** Chris Aiston, Andre Ashmore, Joe Balasa, Gideon Blustein, Judith Kossy, Sean McCarthy, Cindy McSherry, Charles Perkins, Harry Pestine, Angie Powell

**Staff Present:** Annie Byrne, Bob Dean, Bola Delano, Brian Rademacher, Paul Reise

**Others Present:** Kristen Andersen, Glen Marker

### **1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

### **2.0 Welcome and Introductions**

All attendees introduced themselves.

### **3.0 Approval of the Minutes**

Tim Angell requested a correction in the September minutes, under section 6.1, second to last paragraph should read, 'Lori Clark suggested staff consider the importance of business expansions which also plays a big role *in* location decisions.' Motion to approve the minutes was made by Tim Angell and seconded by Tracey Bosman.

### **4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

The agenda was modified. The *GO TO 2040* update first with the Chairman's report to follow. The committee welcomed JoAnne Eckmann, Regional Liaison with World Business Chicago and Thomas Gary, Business Manager with Vincent A. Williams and Associates. It was announced that there will not be an Economic and Community Development Committee meeting in December. November will be the last meeting for the year.

### **5.0 Staff Report**

Staff informed the committee that the Technical Assistance Unit is planning an upcoming panel discussion on transit oriented development and the state of the region's economy: Crisis or opportunity. The event will be held on January 12<sup>th</sup> at the ComEd

Commercial Center in Oak Brook and is a collaborative effort with RTA, IDC, APA, and ILCMA. Details will be discussed at the November committee meeting.

## **6.0 GO TO 2040 Update**

Bob Dean gave the committee a brief summary on the progress of *GO TO 2040*. Over the past year, CMAP staff has been developing interactive strategy papers and snapshot reports. The strategy papers are research based to determine what effect each strategy would have if it were implemented. Snapshot Reports are studies meant to depict where the region stands in measurable terms, regarding fundamental issues that will shape the region's communities in years to come. Over the summer, committee involvement allowed staff to create combined scenarios which included the input of all of the working committees while maintaining overall "identities" for each of the scenarios. Bob Dean reviewed the four draft alternative future scenarios. In the coming months, the working committees will actively participate in tweaking the characteristics of each scenario and in defining each one more clearly through webinar based meetings to be held starting late this fall until early spring of next year.

Lori Clark asked if the scenario construction will be testing assumptions and then developed into actual strategies. Staff confirmed that the scenario construction is being used to test assumptions on what the future could look like; however, it will not develop strategies to be implemented. Bob Gleeson recommended that in the first scenario of continuing current development and investment patterns, that it shows how we have a choice between current planning and the value-added of regional planning. Consuella Brown voiced a concern that many community organizations are not aware of the process in particular where they can participate in the planning process and requested a clarification on where and how community organizations will have input. Lori Clark went on to suggest that a visual showing the involvement of the working committees and how each group is involved in the process would be helpful to all. In response to these concerns, Bola Delano urged members to look on CMAP's website for information about the strategy and snapshot reports and if they have any comments to refer them to Bob Dean or Annie Byrne. Staff agreed to: 1) develop a chart that displays the planning process and where community organizations can have an input. 2) Provide an update on the groups involved and a visual that shows how the working committees fit into the process. 3) Provide a list of strategy reports currently being developed.

## **7.0 Chairman Report**

The chair gave a brief update on the DRI process and informed members that it was currently in the public comment phase, he encouraged members to contact their local elected officials, investors, and the public to provide feedback and ideas on the process. He explained that a recurring complaint so far was the lack of a clear definition for a DRI. Due to a lack of a clear definition, it is not clear where CMAP draws the line in terms of what should be considered regionally important. The chair asked the committee to send feedback to CMAP so that their comments can be included in the public comment process. JoAnne Eckmann asked what happens after December 1<sup>st</sup> when the

public comment closes. John Greuling said it should come back to the programming committee for discussion and then it will be sent to the board for approval.

In light of the concerns expressed about process, the chair reminded the committee of a need for a regional economic development strategy as a component of the planning process. The chair asked staff what steps are being taken to address these strategies. Bob Dean informed the committee that a consulting firm has been awarded a proposal to look at specific strategies related to economic development including innovation, communications infrastructure, green jobs, and cultural amenities. John Greuling asked if the strategies would focus on core economic development activities like the cluster analysis or the state of the region report and if these are still priorities since the committee identified them last year. Bola Delano responded that they were still in process as the board had already approved a budget for the State of the region report but that CMAP was waiting to see what other partners in the region were doing to avoid a duplication of efforts. She spoke briefly about a new project being led by the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce working to prepare a report that covers the greater Midwest region, promoting regional economic development and globalization. Members agreed that this is an important report but recommended that there should be one report for the Midwest and another focusing on Northeast Illinois addressing the disparities and opportunities in the collar counties.

In conclusion, the chair emphasized that CMAP has an important role from a planning perspective to assist in developing a concrete ED strategy that can be used as a technical assistance tool by professionals in the region and this must not be lost in the process. Bola Delano clarified that the efforts of both the planning and technical assistance units are committed to address and promote ED efforts in the region.

## **8.0 Public Comment**

John Greuling mentioned the success of the Global Logistics Summit held a few months ago in Joliet. The presentations and summary of the event can be found on the Will County CED web site.

Robin Kelly mentioned the Food Trust Project and work being done in the region to identify food deserts – areas that lack grocery stores. If committee members are interested in participating they should contact her directly at [rkelly@treasurer.state.illinois.gov](mailto:rkelly@treasurer.state.illinois.gov)

**9.0 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday November 25, 2008 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

**There will be no committee meeting in December.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher  
Staff Liaison

11-05 -08